

I am a resident of Penn Yan NY, and in light of the recent proposal to establish a testing site for BPL, my concern for not only a very active Amateur Radio community here, but for a public service one, which is almost solely dependant on Low Band (45-50 MHz) frequencies. It seems that 2 of our local residents (and hams), are planning some sort of tests, to either prove or disprove the controversy over interference created by the use of BPL. I am not so sure that these two individuals are in any way, shape or form, technically qualified to establish any sound conclusions as to whether problems will exist through the use of power line broadband. Furthermore, I believe that there are perhaps some arrangements in place, whereby the "sign of approval" for BPL will most assuredly be given, since I don't think either of the parties conducting this so-called "test" are concerned with the inevitable resulting interference, to either service.

I have taken the liberty to write both the village Mayor, and the Director of Emergency Management for Yates County, just to give them a possibly more rounded and full circle view of the ramifications of BPL.

Currently, I serve this area as ARES Emergency Coordinator, and our local ARES/RACES community is very concerned about the whole issue. For the past 20 years, I have worked in the commercial two way radio and communications industry, and I know what the results of a BPL system will be, when operated in a Low Band environment.

In closing, let me ask this: Are there required tests to perform, in making a determination as to the viability of such a system, and the subsequent side effects (interference to other services/devices)? If so, how do I know those tests are going to be carried out? Shouldn't such tests as those...and as important as they are...be conducted by the FCC or an agency appointed by you, known to have the legal and most importantly...technical expertise to perform them with both proficiency and impartiality? My fear is that a couple of unconcerned hams, perhaps anticipating some remunerative favor or compensatory arrangement, may simply tour "around the block" a few times...listening to frequencies perhaps not even in question...not obtaining any resultant interference, and inevitably giving the "thumbs-up".

Please if at all possible, and I am sure that it is...step in and make sure that this test is conducted by qualified personnel and that there are no "deals" in place! You are the only authority in whom we, as concerned radio operators, place our trust.

Respectfully:

Richard A. Kingsley
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